

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 157291  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:GFOX/EA:WHGLESTEEN:MGH  
APPROVED BY EA:RHOLBROOKE  
S/S-RPERITO  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
EA

-----079309 070230Z /62

O P 070202Z JUL 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

S E C R E T STATE 157291

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CH, US, TW

SUBJECT: PRC PROTEST OVER WOODCOCK REMARK

1. HAN HSU, ACTING CHIEF OF THE PRC LIAISON OFFICE,  
CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE JULY 5 TO  
PROTEST A COMMENT MADE BY LEONARD WOODCOCK DURING HIS  
CONFIRMATION HEARINGS.

2. HAN STATED: "ACCORDING TO UPI, DURING HIS TESTIMONY  
BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON JUNE 28,  
MR. WOODCOCK EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL OPINION THAT ANY  
ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE US TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH PEKING  
SHOULD ALL GIVE APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION TO THE SECURITY  
OF THE PEOPLE LIVING IN TAIWAN. THE US SIDE SHOULD RE-

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MEMBER THAT IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE, THE US SIDE  
ACKNOWLEDGES THAT TAIWAN IS A PART OF CHINA. T EREFORE,  
IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE ISSUE OF THE SECURITY  
OF TAIWAN IS CHINA'S INTERNAL AFFAIR IN WHICH NO OTHER  
COUNTRY HAS A RIGHT TO INTERFERE. MR. WOODCOCK'S STATE-  
MENT GOES AGAINST THE SPIRIT OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.  
MR. WOODCOCK MADE SUCH A STATEMENT ON THE EVE OF ASSUMING

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF OF THE UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE  
IN CHINA. FOR THIS, THE CHINESE SIDE CANNOT BUT FEEL  
SHOCKED AND EXPRESS ITS REGRET."

3. RATHER THAN ARGUE OVER WHAT WOODCOCK MAY OR MAY NOT  
HAVE SAID, HOLBROOKE STRESSED THAT OUR POLICY HAD BEEN  
ENUNCIATED CLEARLY AND AUTHORITATIVELY IN THE SECRETARY'S  
ASIA SOCIETY SPEECH, THAT WOODCOCK FULLY SUPPORTED THAT  
POLICY, AND THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD COMPLETE CONFIDENCE  
IN WOODCOCK. HOLBROOKE NOTED THAT OUR POLICY WAS BASED  
ON THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE: WE ACKNOWLEDGED THE VIEW  
THAT THERE WAS BUT ONE CHINA, AND WE ALSO REAFFIRMED  
OUR STATEMENT IN THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE ABOUT OUR IN-  
TEREST IN A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE TAIWAN QUESTION  
BY THE CHINESE THEMSELVES. HOLBROOKE URGED THAT THE  
CHINESE APPROACH THE SECRETARY'S PEKING VISIT IN THE  
CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT NECESSARY FOR PROGRESS TOWARD OUR  
MUTUAL GOAL OF FULL NORMALIZATION. HAN'S REJOINDER WAS  
THAT THESE VIEWS WERE US, RATHER THAN JOINT US/PRC VIEWS,  
WHEREAS THE US HAD JOINTLY AGREED NOT TO INTERFERE IN  
CHINESE INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

4. COMMENT: WE DO NOT TAKE HAN'S PROTEST AS DIRECTED  
AGAINST THE SECRETARY'S ASIA SOCIETY SPEECH OR THE  
PRESIDENT'S MOST RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE. NOR DO WE  
INTERPRET HIS PROTEST AS DIRECTED PERSONALLY AT WOODCOCK.  
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RATHER, WE THINK THE CHINESE SEIZED ON WOODCOCK'S RE-  
MARKS TO THE SENATE AS AN INDIRECT WAY OF CRITICIZING  
CERTAIN PREVIOUS STATEMENTS BY US OFFICIALS CONCERNING  
THE FUTURE OF TAIWAN. THIS LATEST CHINESE ACTION TAKEN  
WITH HIGH-LEVEL PRC STATEMENTS TO AMERICAN VISITORS AND  
COMMENTS BY THE CPIFA DELEGATION CURRENTLY IN THE US  
REFLECTS A SYSTEMATIC PRC EFFORT TO DETER AMERICANS  
FROM THINKING THERE CAN BE ANY COMPROMISE IN PEKING'S  
"PRINCIPLED" STAND ON TAIWAN. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE157291  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GFOX/EA:WHGLESTEEN:MGH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRC PROTEST OVER WOODCOCK REMARK  
**TAGS:** PDIP, CH, US, TW  
**To:** PEKING  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009